

MASS ASSEMBLAGE OF
LOYAL CITIZENS OF NEW-YORK
IN HONOR OF

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GRANT,

AND TO
CELEBRATE THE TRIUMPHS OF
THE UNION ARMIES

UNION SQUARE, JUNE 4,
1864

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GRATITUDE TO GEN. GRANT.

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LOYAL CITIZENS OF NEW-YORK

IN HONOR OF

Lieutenant-General Grant,

AND TO

CELEBRATE THE TRIUMPHS OF THE UNION ARMIES,

UNION SQUARE, JUNE 4, 1864.



NEW-YORK :

GEORGE F. NESBITT & CO., PRINTERS & STATIONERS,
CORNER OF PEARL & PINE STS.

1864.

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CALL OF THE MEETING.

GRANT AND VICTORY.

A NATION'S GRATITUDE TO GENERAL GRANT.

MASS Assemblage of loyal citizens, without distinction of party, at Union Square, on Saturday, June 4, at six o'clock, P. M.

All citizens who desire to maintain the Union cause, to support the National Government, to stimulate recruiting for the Union armies, and also to render grateful acknowledgments for services on many a battle-field, for glorious victories achieved, and for protection given, under Providence, to the life of the Nation by

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL U. S. GRANT,
are invited to give the benefit of their presence and influence to objects so deeply interesting to the country.

Many distinguished speakers will take part in the proceedings, whose names will be published hereafter.

Fireworks will be displayed during the evening, and it is expected that many private residences and public buildings on the Square will be illuminated. Should the weather prove inclement, the meeting will be held on Monday, or the next fair day thereafter.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

JAMES WADSWORTH,
CHARLES P. DALY,
MARSHALL O. ROBERTS,
HENRY J. RAYMOND,
CHARLES GOULD,
SHEPHERD KNAPP,
MATTHEW T. BRENNAN,
EDWARDS PIERREPONT,
LEONARD W. JEROME,
WM. V. BRADY,
SETH B. HUNT,
CHARLES G. CORNELL,
WED. W. CLARK,
PROSPER M. WETMORE,
HENRY E. CLARKE,
HORACE GREELEY,
T. M. TYNG,
Dr. WM. SHIRMER,

GEORGE OPDYKE,
JAMES T. BRADY,
ROBERT H. McCURDY,
GILBERT DEAN,
RICHARD D. LATHROP,
JOHN T. HOFFMAN,
WILLIAM C. BRYANT,
EDWARD P. COWLES,
HENRY A. SMYTHE,
WILLIAM SELIGMAN,
ELIJAH F. PURDY,
JOHN A. C. GRAY,
SAMUEL WETMORE,
A. C. KINGSLAND,
B. F. MANIERRE,
SMITH ELY, JR.,
JOHN H. WHITE,
CARL O'B. BRYANT.

FREDERICK A. CONKLING,

Chairman.

HENRY CLEWS, *Treasurer.*

NATH'L JARVIS, Jr., *Secretary.*

UNION SQUARE, JUNE 4, 1864.

THE Meeting was called to order, on the eastern stand, by Hon. James Wadsworth, who nominated Honorable George Opdyke to preside.

The nomination being carried, Mr. Opdyke took the Chair, and called upon Reverend W. H. Boole to offer Prayer, at the close of which service, Mr. Opdyke addressed the Meeting. On the retirement of the President, from indisposition, the proceedings on this stand were conducted by Hon. F. A. Conkling.

R. D. LATHROP, Esq., called the meeting, on the western stand, to order. He said: Fellow Citizens,—It affords me pleasure, far beyond my feeble powers to express, to stand before such a concourse of loyal citizens, every impulse of whose hearts is in favor of the war. I thank you for this presence. I feel, and you all feel, that it is the duty of every citizen of this country to sustain the Government, by all the means in his power, in this hour of its trial. For that purpose we are met on this occasion, to render deserved honors to the gallant armies that are fighting our battles. I nominate, for your presiding officer, JAMES T. BRADY, Esq., (cheers for Mr. Brady,) a man whom every loyal citizen of this country regards not merely with honor and esteem, but I may say affection, for the noble stand he has taken in our country's cause. (Cheers.)

Mr. BRADY, on taking the chair, said: Fellow Citizens,—According to the programme, you will do me the favor to maintain perfect silence while a prayer will be offered by Rev. Mr. Dutcher, of the Market-street Church; after which I propose to indulge in a few remarks before the meeting is fully organized.

Prayer was then offered, after which Mr. Brady addressed the meeting.

The following officers of the meeting were nominated on the one stand by Mr. Charles Gould, on the other by Mr Joseph Hoxie:

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Richard D. Lathrop,
William B. Astor,
Francis B. Cutting,
Wm. F. Havemeyer,
Myndert Van Schaick,
John T. Hoffman,
Moses Taylor,
John A. Stevens,
John D. Wolf,
James Wadsworth,
A. V. Stout,
F. S. Winston,
Wm. G. Lambert,
S. V. R. Cooper,
Isaac Bell,
Frederick A. Conkling,
Orison Blunt,
Moses H. Grinnell,
Ezra Nye,
W. W. De Forest,
Henry K. Bogert,
Gustav Schwab,
Jonathan Sturges,
Samuel Wetmore,
John Van Buren,
John Clancy,
Townsend Harris,
Joseph Hoxie,
James L. White,
James Gordon Bennett,
John R. Brady,
Stephen Cambreleng,
John McCool,
George Starr,
James McKaye,
Benjamin W. Bonney,
George Griswold,
William M. Tweed,
H. W. T. Mali,
Henry Hilton,

Hamilton Fish,
George Bancroft,
John J. Cisco,
A. A. Low,
Samuel Shaw,
Charles H. Russell,
Waldo Hutchins,
Josiah Sutherland,
Morris Ketchum,
James B. Nicholson,
Charles A. Secor,
Henry Clews,
Abraham R. Van Nest,
R. W. Howes,
Elijah Fisher,
Stephen Crocker,
Jacob A. Westervelt,
A. C. Kingsland,
Thomas Smull,
George Law,
Wm. Mitchell,
Charles Gould,
Edward P. Cowles,
Murray Hoffman,
Henry E. Pierrepont,
John Slosson,
John D. Townsend,
Samuel C. Reed,
John Ockershausen,
John H. Almy,
Nathaniel Jarvis, Sen.,
Isaac L. Pinckney,
John E. Develin,
Wm. B. Taylor,
Aaron Vanderpool,
Wm. Curtis Noyes,
George Lorillard,
Wm. H. Fogg,
Joseph Britton,
Lorenzo Sherwood,

Edwards Pierrepont,
 Samuel B. Caldwell,
 Benj. R. Winthrop,
 Denning Duer,
 Marshall O. Roberts,
 Joseph S. Bosworth,
 Christian B. Woodruff,
 Henry E. Clarke,
 A. H. Almy,
 Shepard Gandy,
 Minthorne Tompkins, Jr.,
 Henry Alker,
 George S. Coe,
 George Irving,
 Thomas W. Clerke,
 Edwin Hoyt,
 W. Seligman,
 Frederic Depeyster,
 George W. Blunt,
 Adam W. Spies,
 Joseph H. Godwin,
 Seth B. Hunt,
 H. Huntington Lee,
 William Laimbeer, Jr.,
 John C. Green,
 A. Oakey Hall,
 Shepherd Knapp,
 Robert L. Stuart,
 Brig. Gen. De Trobriand,
 George S. Robbins,
 Wm. M. Evarts,
 Henry J. Raymond,
 Samuel Sloan,
 Chas. G. Cornell,
 Charles P. Daly,
 R. H. McCurdy,
 J. J. Astor, Jr.,
 Thos. Boese,
 Leonard W. Jerome,
 John Kelly,
 Gilbert Dean,
 Simeon Draper,
 John Wadsworth,
 F. I. A. Boole,
 Stephen Hyatt,
 John T. Hogeboom,

John H. Gourlie,
 Wm. H. Appleton,
 J. J. Phelps,
 Joseph Ripley,
 Horace Greeley,
 William Barton,
 Smith Ely, Jr.,
 Phineas T. Barnum,
 Morris Franklin,
 R. A. Witthaus,
 Wm. B. Maclay,
 William H. Leonard,
 George H. Peck,
 George Folsom,
 Matthew T. Brennan,
 George T. Strong,
 E. D. Stanton,
 Henry C. Bowen,
 Jas. R. Leaming,
 George Bliss, Jr.,
 Edmund L. Hearne,
 Chas. P. Kirkland,
 Wm. T. Blodgett,
 George W. McLean,
 B. F. Manierre,
 Carolan O'B. Bryant,
 Egbert L. Viele,
 J. Austin Stevens,
 James R. Whiting,
 George P. Putnam,
 James F. Depeyster,
 Wm. W. Niles,
 Erastus C. Benedict,
 Abraham M. Cozzens,
 Wm. C. Barrett,
 Cornelius Vanderbilt,
 Michael Ulshoeffer,
 Thomas C. Smith,
 Wm. H. Aspinwall,
 George H. Moore,
 Dr. Anthony Gescheidt,
 John McClave,
 Thos. C. Acton,
 John McKesson,
 William McMurray,
 Henry W. Genet,

Charles E. Jenkins,
 Morgan Jones,
 Henry A. Heiser,
 Daniel Devlin,
 Thaddeus H. Lane,
 Charles C. Macy,
 John A. Kennedy,
 John A. C. Gray,
 Henry E. Davies,
 Daniel Drew,
 Thomas H. Landon,
 George F. Nesbitt,
 Josiah S. Bennet,
 Frank E. Howe,
 James Udall,
 Dr. Wm. Schirmer,
 Daniel P. Ingraham,
 O. D. F. Grant,
 Magnus Gross,
 Welcome R. Beebe,
 Andrew Carrigan,
 B. H. Hutton,
 Peter B. Sweeney,
 George T. Adee,
 M. W. Cooper,
 T. Bailey Myers,

T. G. Churchill,
 Marshall Lefferts,
 H. A. Smythe,
 Philip Tillinghast,
 Wm. H. Hays,
 Charles Roome,
 James Low,
 Charles Anthony,
 S. Hutchinson,
 Wm. W. Stone,
 Wm. A. Budd,
 Horace B. Claflin,
 John Chadwick,
 Peter F. Randolph,
 Thomas M. Partridge,
 John N. Haywood,
 Richard B. Connolly,
 Gilbert P. Sherwood,
 Christian Metzger,
 Peter Mitchel,
 Henry Smith,
 George A. Wicks,
 Floyd Bailey,
 Loring Andrews,
 Dr. J. Miller,
 Thos. Dunlap.

SECRETARIES.

Nathaniel Jarvis, Jr.,
 Spencer Kirby,
 Samuel J. Glassey,
 Charles T. Rodgers,
 Edward C. Bogert,
 John H. Draper,
 George F. Barrett,
 Cephus Brainerd,
 Richard A. McCurdy,
 Michael C. Gross,
 Edward Timpson,
 Frank W. Ballard,
 David R. Jaques,
 R. J. Vanderburgh,
 Wm C. Traphagen,
 E. W. T. Hyatt,
 Robt. D. Livingston,

Horatio F. Averill,
 Wm. S. Opdyke,
 Henry Beeny,
 Chas. H. Ludington,
 Philip Frankenheimer,
 John Lowrey,
 Edward A. Wetmore,
 John Hardy,
 John Falconer,
 A. R. Lawrence, Jr.,
 William O. Bourne,
 Moses Ely,
 Richard S. Cummings,
 Frank Moore,
 Moses D. Gale,
 Charles T. Evans,
 Stephen S. Philbin.

The following resolutions were submitted, and read respectively, by Hon. CHARLES P. DALY, and Mr. WALDO HUTCHINS :

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the series of military successes—the capture of Fort Donelson, the taking of Vicksburg, the seizure of the mountain fastnesses of Chattanooga, and, finally, the advance of the Army of the Potomac against formidable natural obstacles, a heavy opposing force, and a skilful General, to within sight of the City of Richmond—are events, so important in their bearing upon the successful issue of the war, as to call for a public expression of the obligations which the American people are under to Lieutenant-General GRANT, and to every officer and soldier under his command.

Resolved, That the co-operative efforts of the Army of the Cumberland, under Major-General Sherman, in its recent passage over the mountains and descent upon the plains of north-western Georgia, call for an expression of admiration for the strategic skill and ability displayed by its commander, and for the dauntless courage and indomitable perseverance exhibited by both officers and men.

Resolved, That, from the commencement, and throughout the war, the American Navy has maintained its high character. To its co-operation we are indebted for the opening of the Mississippi. In its strength and efficiency we have found our chief security against foreign interference ; and the emulative character of its deeds has been such as to claim, in equal proportion, the tribute which it due to our soldiers and to our sailors.

Resolved, That the movements which are now transpiring in compelling the enemy to retreat within smaller geographical limits, while our forces have the ability to advance upon his vulnerable points from several quarters at the same time, show the wisdom of confiding the sole direction and management of military operations to one General Officer. That having reaped little but disaster from entrusting important military commands to civilians, who, whatever may be their general capacity, have not the necessary military education or experience, we congratulate the country upon this change in its policy, and upon the fact, that so responsible a trust has been placed in the hands of a man who has the universal confidence of the Nation.

Resolved, That at no period, since the beginning of hostilities, has the prospect been so favorable as at present of a speedy and successful termination of the war ; but, to ensure that end, it is necessary that our army should be efficiently and rapidly reinforced, that every effort should be made to stimulate enlistments, and that the young men of the country, who have the requisite vigor and nerve, should come forward and share in the honors which will follow them through life, of having fought in the ranks of that noble army, by whose courage and patriotism the Republic was saved.

Resolved, That, independent of all distinctions of party, and irrespective of all political preferences, we declare our unalterable determination to unite in the prosecution of the war with all our vigor and all our might, until those who have raised their hands against the freest and most liberal government upon earth shall lay down their arms, and submit to the Constitution and the Laws.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Addresses were delivered by Hon. James T. Brady, Hon. George Opdyke, Hon. Charles P. Daly, Hon. Daniel P. Tyler, Rev. W. H. Boole, Hon S. C. Pomeroy, General Thomas Francis Meagher, Hon. Mr. Rollins of Mo., General H. Walbridge, Hon. G. Dean, Colonel Jackson, of New Jersey, Hon. Magnus Gross, and others.

Mr. Waldo Hutchins offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That a Committee of twenty-six be appointed by the Chairman of this meeting, which Committee are hereby authorized, from time to time, to convene assemblages of the people, for such consultation and action as the exigencies of the country may require, and to adopt such measures, as, in their judgment, are demanded for the support and maintenance of the Government.

The following Committee were appointed :

CHARLES P. DALY,
HENRY E. DAVIES,
R. H. McCURDY,
SHEPHERD KNAPP,
R. D. LATHROP,
HENRY NICOLL,
WALDO HUTCHINS,
H. A. SMYTHE,
CHARLES GOULD,
F. A. CONKLING,
HENRY CLEWS,
E. P. COWLES,
WILLIAM SELIGMAN,

GEORGE OPDYKE,
JOSIAH SUTHERLAND,
J. T. HOFFMAN,
M. T. BRENNAN,
J. T. BRADY,
GILBERT DEAN,
JAMES WADSWORTH,
E. F. PURDY,
CHARLES G. CORNELL,
F. I. A. BOOLE,
DOUGLAS TAYLOR,
J. K. HACKETT,
CAROLAN O'B. BRYANT.

INVITED GUESTS.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

HON. W. H. SEWARD, SECRETARY OF STATE.

HON. SALMON P. CHASE, SECRETARY OF TREASURY.

HON. E. M. STANTON, SECRETARY OF WAR.

HON. GIDEON WELLES, SECRETARY OF NAVY.

HON. J. P. USHER, SECRETARY OF INTERIOR.

HON. M. BLAIR, POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

HON. EDWARD BATES, ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SCOTT, U. S. A.

MAJOR-GENERAL J. A. DIX, U. S. A.

BRIG.-GENERAL R. DE TROBRIAND, U. S. A.

HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN A. ANDREW, GOVERNOR OF MASS.

HIS EXCELLENCY W. A. BUCKINGHAM, GOVERNOR OF CONN.

HIS EXCELLENCY A. G. CURTIN, GOVERNOR OF PENN.

HIS EXCELLENCY WM. CANNON, GOVERNOR OF DELAWARE.

ADMIRAL F. H. GREGORY, U. S. N.

ADMIRAL S. H. STRINGHAM, U. S. N.

ADMIRAL H. PAULDING, U. S. N.

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR OF NEW-YORK.

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR OF BROOKLYN.

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.
COMPANY.

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK OPEN STOCK BOARD.

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK PRODUCE EXCHANGE.

THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE.

A large number of letters, received in response, were submitted by the Committee, and the following were read :

COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM GOVERNOR CURTIN.

HARRISBURG, *June 3, 1864.*

GENTLEMEN,—I have to acknowledge your letter of the 31st May, which I have received this morning on my return from Pittsburgh.

I am much chagrined that the pressure of public business here prevents me from accepting the invitation to be present at the meeting to-morrow in honor of General GRANT.

It would afford me the highest pleasure to participate in the expression of the gratitude which all our people feel for his services, great and unequalled as they have been.

A. G. CURTIN.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, *June 3, 1864.*

HON. F. A. CONKLING AND OTHERS :

GENTLEMEN,—Your letter, inviting me to be present at a mass meeting of Loyal Citizens, to be held at New-York, on the 4th inst., for the purpose of expressing gratitude to Lieutenant-General GRANT for his signal services, was received yesterday. It is impossible for me to attend. I approve, nevertheless, whatever may tend to strengthen and sustain General GRANT and the noble armies now under his direction. My previous high estimate of General GRANT has been maintained and heightened by what has occurred in the remarkable campaign he is now conducting, while the magnitude and difficulty of the task before him does not prove less than I expected. He and his brave soldiers are now in the midst of their great trial, and I trust, that at your meeting you will so shape your good words that they may turn to men and guns moving to his and their support.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER FROM GENERAL DIX.

NEW-YORK, *June 4, 1864.*NATHANIEL JARVIS, JR., *Secretary :*

GENTLEMEN,—I regret that my engagements this evening will not permit me to attend the meeting in Union Square, to give expression to the general feeling of gratitude to General Grant, for his distinguished services, to re-affirm our devotion to the Union, and to pledge our energies to the support of the Government. In all these objects I most heartily concur. No one can entertain a stronger sense than myself of General Grant's military skill, patriotism, gallantry and unconquerable perseverance, and I hold it to be pre-eminently the duty of all good

citizens, at this juncture, to sustain the Government with all their energies in giving to the noble leader of our armies the means of striking a fatal blow at the Rebellion in the stronghold of its power.

I am, very respectfully,

JOHN A. DIX.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY CHASE.

WASHINGTON, *June 3.*

GENTLEMEN,—The loyal citizens of New-York honor themselves by meeting in mass to express their gratitude to the great soldier, under whose lead the heroes of the Republic have achieved so much for their country; to re-affirm their devotion to the Union, and to pledge their energies to the complete suppression of the Rebellion. I thank you for the honor of an invitation to take part in their patriotic action, and regret that the necessity of devoting my whole time to my official duties will make it impossible for me to be personally present. Nothing can be said, however, in the spirit of your letter, to which my whole heart will not respond.

Permit me to add, that while we rejoice in the success of our armies and give thanks for them, we should not forget that there is one class of defenders of the flag, one class of men loyal to the Union, to whom we yet fail to do justice. It will be the marvel of future historians, that statesmen of this day were willing to risk the success of Rebellion rather than intrust to black loyalists bullets and ballots.

Very truly, yours,

S. P. CHASE.

NOTE FROM SECRETARY SEWARD TO THE UNION MEETING.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, }
WASHINGTON, *June 6, 1864.* }

GENTLEMEN,—I have only just now received the letter which you addressed to me on the 31st of May last, inviting me to attend the meeting which was held in New-York, on Saturday last, to give an expression of the gratitude of the people to Lieut.-Gen. GRANT. Regretting the accident which has delayed this response, I pray you to be assured that I fully sympathize with the people of New-York in their confidence in the commander of our armies, and in their zeal for the national cause.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

To James Wadsworth, Esq., James T. Brady, Esq., Fred'k A. Conkling, Esq., and others.

LETTER FROM E. W. GANTT, OF ARKANSAS.

FIFTH AVENUE HOTEL, *June 4th, 1864.*

SIR,—Yours, of May 31st, inviting me to be present at the loyal demonstration in honor of Lieut.-Gen. GRANT, and that I address the audience on said occasion, only reached me this morning.

I regret that engagements, a date prior to my knowledge of the meeting, calls me away from the city, and will deprive me of the pleasure of being present on an occasion of so much interest.

I beg leave to add, that I most heartily approve of the object of the meeting.

General GRANT justly merits the honors intended him. From Donelson to Vicksburg, and from Vicksburg to the frowning batteries at Richmond, are substantial fruits of the great genius that should call forth a nation's gratitude. While the Mississippi River rolls seaward, and the East Tennessee mountains point heavenward, the monuments of his fame, and his heroic deeds linked with them and carved upon them, will endure and grow brighter and fresher while they endure.

For the sake of our country, of republican institutions, and of the imperilled and suffering Union people of your great and noble city, of their devotion to the cause of the Union and the pledging of their united energies to the support of the Government for the complete suppression of the rebellion, will come with peculiar force at this time. And it will nerve the arms and cheer the hearts of the defenders of our Government, while it correspondingly dispirits and unnerves those engaged in the foolish and, I thank God, fruitless attempts at its overthrow.

But, while we do honor to the great Captain of the age, and rejoice over victories won, let us not accustom our minds to attach too much importance to one battle, or one campaign. Let us bear in mind, that the whole Confederate army on this side the Mississippi River, except the forces under Joe Johnston, are in the hands of Lee, an able and skilful general. That more than two hundred thousand men, under the immediate eye of Jefferson Davis, the most adroit and accomplished demagogue of any age or country, are held in readiness to be sacrificed to his ambition, and that he is cold enough, and cruel enough, and base enough to make the sacrifice for himself. Should this combined and concentrated force of the whole rebellion under the immediate eye of its heartless dictator, and within its chosen fortifications, foil the gallant army that meets it, it should excite neither surprise nor apprehension, but arouse a greater determination to save the Government at all hazards. Should the Union army succeed in breaking to pieces that immense horde of enthusiasts and slaves, (for they are the one or the other,) then the fullness of time for great rejoicing, in all parts of the country, will have arrived.

As a Southern man, I rejoice to see such demonstrations as the one contemplated. For I know that the greater the unity in the North, the sooner the war will end, and the less the suffering will be to the South.

Again regretting that I cannot be present, and thanking you for the compliment intended by your kind invitation,

I am, your obedient servant,

E. W. GANTT.

NATHANIEL JARVIS, Jr., Sec., New-York.

LETTER FROM EX-CONGRESSMAN R. CONKLING.

UTICA, *June 2, 1864.*

GENTLEMEN,—I have the pleasure to acknowledge your invitation to address a mass meeting in Union Square, on day after to-morrow.

Your names give the highest evidence that the occasion will be under the auspices of gentlemen distinguished in both political parties, and its most valuable and timely significance will arise from its blended character in this respect.

I rejoice to know that leading men of both parties have time and willingness thus to unite, not only to celebrate the progress of our arms, but “to re-affirm their devotion to the sacred cause of the Union, and to pledge their united energies to the support of the Government, for the complete suppression of the rebellion.”

Such a demonstration in the commercial capital of the country, cannot fail to exert a wholesome and needed influence upon the public mind.

I wish I might witness your proceedings, and take part in them; but before the receipt of your invitation, I had entered into engagements which precluded it.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

ROSCOE CONKLING.

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR OF BROOKLYN.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, }
BROOKLYN, *June 3d, 1864.* }

To Messrs. James Wadsworth, Fred. A. Conkling, James T. Brady, Esqs., and others.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your invitation to be present at a mass assemblage, to be held on Union Square, New-York, June 4th, I regret to be obliged to say that official engagements will prevent me from being present. Permit me, however, to assure you of my cordial sympathy with the object of the meeting, as set forth in your kind invitation—“the expression by the loyal citizens of New-

York, of their gratitude to Lieut.-Gen. GRANT, for his signal services in conducting the armies of freedom to victory," to re-affirm their devotion to the sacred cause of the Union, and to pledge their united energies to the support of the Government, for the complete suppression of the rebellion.

I am, gentlemen, for Liberty and Union,

Yours, very truly,

A. M. WOOD.

LETTER FROM HON. D. S. DICKINSON.

BINGHAMPTON, *June 3d*, 1864.

GENTLEMEN,—Devoted as I am, heart and soul, to crushing the dastardly rebellion, which has so madly raged for three years past, I admire and honor, in a corresponding degree, those who have been most intrepid in its extermination. Amongst the first and foremost I recognize that distinguished military leader, Lieut.-General GRANT. He is deserving his country's gratitude for services rendered, and every hour is binding fresh laurels upon his war-worn brow.

I would gladly join you in testifying the popular appreciation of his patriotic and noble efforts, as well as his high military skill, but other engagements prevent.

Sincerely, yours,

D. S. DICKINSON.

Hon. James Wadsworth, and others.

LETTER OF THE HON. EDWARD BATES.

WASHINGTON, *June 6*, 1864.

NATHANIEL JARVIS, JR., ESQ., *Secretary, &c*,

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 31. (signed by you, as Secretary, and a number of other gentlemen.)

Your letter informs me that "the loyal citizens of New-York, without distinction of party, will convene in mass assemblage, in Union Square, on Saturday next, the 4th June, at 6 o'clock, P. M., to give an expression of their gratitude to Lieutenant-General GRANT, for his signal services in conducting the national arms to victory; to re-affirm their devotion to the sacred cause of the Union, and to pledge their united energies to the support of the Government, for the complete suppression of the rebellion."

All the objects mentioned in your letter are so good in themselves, and so dear to my heart, that nothing could give me more pleasure than to co-operate with any assembly whose motives are so patriotic, and whose ends are so desirable.

But I could not possibly accept your courteous invitation, for in fact, your letter did not reach me until Saturday night, the 4th of June—several hours after the time fixed for the meeting.

As to General GRANT, we do but echo the general voice of the nation when we praise his glorious achievements in arms wherever he has confronted the enemy—in Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia. And now we look, with hope and confidence, for the crowning result of his labors, in the bloodiest of all fields—Virginia.

When he shall have broken the rebel power in the old commonwealth, we will see “the beginning of the end” of this mighty rebellion; and when the end shall come, and the reign of law be once more established in peace, he will enjoy, in dignified repose, the fame which he has so nobly won in fields of carnage. And then we, all of us, will rejoice in the consciousness of peace and safety, when we behold Grant (patriot and soldier that he is) still at the head of a veteran army, with no enemy in the field, and no painful service to perform, but only the honorable duty to command the body-guard of the Constitution and the Union; for the President, warmly sympathizing with the whole people, has made him commander of all the armies of the republic.

I remain, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

EDWARD BATES.

LETTER FROM POSTMASTER-GENERAL BLAIR.

WASHINGTON, *June 4th*, 1864.

GENTLEMEN,—I have just received your note of the 31st, post-marked 2d, inviting me to be present at a meeting of loyal citizens, to be held at Union Square to-day, to express their gratitude to Lieut.-General Grant, for his signal services in conducting the National Armies to victory; to re-affirm their devotion to the sacred cause of the Union, and to pledge their united energies to the support of the Government, for the complete suppression of the rebellion.

I would heartily join my voice to that of the vast assemblage, to be convened to-day in New-York, to respond to these sentiments, if it were possible for me to be present. Not being able to be there, I can do no more than to say, that I entirely approve the call for the expression proposed, believing, not only that the noble soldier, whom it is intended to honor in this manner, deserves the warmest thanks from his countrymen, but that the occasion should be embraced to nerve our people to the further efforts and sacrifices that may be required to insure the triumph of our cause.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

M. BLAIR.

MESSRS. WADSWORTH, BRADY, and others, *Committee, &c.*

LETTER FROM WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT, Esq.

OFFICE OF THE EVENING POST, 41 NASSAU STREET, cor. }
LIBERTY, NEW-YORK, *June 10th, 1864.* }

GENTLEMEN,—Owing to my absence on a distant journey, I did not receive, till now, your invitation to take part in the proceedings of the meeting called to do honor to General GRANT.

It would certainly have given me pleasure to co-operate in any testimony of the public gratitude to this eminent officer for the services he has already rendered, and to the gallant armies whose movements he directs. Comprehensive plans, with prodigious energy and activity in their execution, have not only given the country at large new confidence in the success of our cause, but have made the co-operation of all classes in the measures taken to preserve the Union, and crush the rebellion, more cheerful, hearty and effective.

I am, gentlemen, very truly yours,

W. C. BRYANT.

MESSRS. JAMES WADSWORTH, }
GEORGE OPDYKE, & others. }

General Scott responded in person to his invitation through the Select Committee. He expressed sincere regret that indisposition forbade his attendance at the Meeting, and, with a glowing eulogy on the military skill and bravery of General Grant, declared his entire confidence in the triumphant results of the campaign now in progress.

LETTER ADDRESSED TO LIEUT.-GENERAL GRANT.

MASS ASSEMBLAGE OF LOYAL CITIZENS.

NEW-YORK, *June 8th, 1864.*

GENERAL,—In common with the loyal people of the Nation, the citizens of New-York have followed your long career of brilliant services, in the cause of the Union, with mingled feelings of solicitude and admiration.

They have watched, with unfailing interest, your course, made lustrous by devoted patriotism, military genius and daring bravery, from the Ohio to the Mississippi, and from the mountains of Tennessee to the valleys of Virginia.

Under a solemn sense of duty they have met together, to acknowledge the vast debt of gratitude which is due to you by the American people.

In transmitting a copy of the Resolutions of the Assemblage, the undersigned tender their hearty congratulations on the glorious successes which have attended

your arms on so many battle-fields. Relying on the justice of the cause which you defend, they will offer earnest prayers to the Divine Ruler of Nations, that you may be enabled speedily and fully to accomplish the great work confided to your hands.

With sentiments of high respect and consideration,

Your obedient servants,

(Signed by)

THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

To Lieut.-General U. S. GRANT,

Commanding Army of U. States,

IN THE FIELD.

THE MEETING.

The several stands were appropriately decorated with flags, banners and colored Chinese lanterns. By the aid of calcium lights, the whole area, crowded with listening thousands, was brilliantly illuminated.

The banners were ornamented with colored portraits, representing distinguished generals of high position in the Union armies, in the following order:

A likeness of Lieutenant-General Grant, painted on a white ground, and having a frame in the form of a shield, occupied a place at the front of the main stand. Banners on each-side were inscribed with the mottoes,

“Unconditional Surrender—GRANT.”

“The captured heights of Chattanooga prove
His readiness on rebel works to move.

His words and deeds with equal lustre shine,
While flanking Lee on the Virginia ‘line.’”

The likeness of Major-General MEADE bore the following inscriptions:

GETTYSBURG. RAPIDAN. POTOMAC LINE.

Dashing from field to field, with lightning speed,
The rebel leader flies before the lines of Meade,
Virginia's soil shall glory to be free
When victory seals the fearful doom of Lee.

The HANCOCK banner bore the following:

THE RAPIDAN TO THE CHICKAHOMINY.

Wherever Hancock leads his veterans on,
The rebel lines are crushed and victory won;
From field to field he drives the routed foe,
Who hear the bugle sound and feel the deadly blow.

The other Generals were represented in succession.

BURNSIDE.

ROANOKE. NEWBERN. KNOXVILLE.

ON EVERY FIELD, FROM THE RAPIDAN TO RICHMOND.

While faithful Burnside held the mountain key,
The traitor's gate was closed in Tennessee.

WARREN.

THE BATTLE-FIELDS OF PENNSYLVANIA AND VIRGINIA.

In many a fight by dashing Warren won,
New-York is proud to claim a gallant son.

WRIGHT.

WILDERNESS. SPOTTSYLVANIA. HANOVER.

Vainly the traitor columns, fierce for fight,
Dash their long lines against the front of Wright;
His legions storm their pits, attack their walls,
While, red with blood, the rebel banner falls.

SHERMAN.

VICKSBURG. KNOXVILLE. ATLANTA.

Far in the South, beneath the summer skies,
The victor shouts of Sherman's legions rise;
Still rushing onward, with the speed of light,
They gladly hail Atlanta for the coming fight.

HOOVER.

WILLIAMSBURG. CHANCELLORSVILLE. LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.

He bore his banner to the cloud-capp'd height,
And won new glory in the mountain fight.
From many a bloody field the rebel foe
Has fled before the flag of "Fighting Joe."

THOMAS.

MILL SPRING. MURFREESBORO. CHATTANOOGA.

When Chickamauga felt the traitor's blows,
The lion heart of Thomas higher rose;
Nor paused his ranks that bore the starry flag,
Till from the field they drove the rebel Bragg.

McPHERSON.

CHATTANOOGA. ROME. RESACCA.

When clouds hung heavy o'er the Vicksburg fight,
 McPherson's genius shone with added light;
 Deep in the trench he fought, or sprung the mine,
 Till glory settled on the Union line.

BUTLER.

BALTIMORE. NEW ORLEANS. CITY POINT.

First in the field to aid his country's cause,
 Firmly he stood, defender of its laws;
 When treason shameless stalked throughout the land,
 His wisdom framed the Code of Contraband!

DIX.

"If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot."

JOHN A. DIX.

In rendering fitting honors to the living heroes, the illustrious dead were not forgotten. The Washington Monument was beautifully decorated, with the insignia of mourning, in honor of the lamented Sedgwick and Wadsworth. Two large flagstuffs were planted at the sides of the statue, on which were banners, containing likenesses of these lamented officers. On the banners were the following lines:

"How sleep the brave who sink to rest,
 By all their country's wishes blest!"

SEDGWICK.

Victory crowns the living.
 Gratitude mourns the dead.
 Fame is immortal.

WADSWORTH.

The patriot who falls in battle for freedom, sheds lustre on the page of history.

The ceremonies of the evening terminated in a display of fireworks, of which the following description is taken from a daily paper:

At the conclusion of the speeches, about half-past eight o'clock, the assemblage was directed to concentrate in Fourteenth

street, opposite the Maison Dorée, for the purpose of viewing the display of pyrotechny which was about to take place. About this time the crowd had swelled to enormous proportions, and there could not have been less than twenty-five thousand human beings packed together in one solid mass at the south side of the square. The spectacle presented was, in a high degree, picturesque. Calcium lights flashed in every direction; rockets whizzed through the air and illuminated the heavens with fires representing all the colors of the rainbow; the Maison Dorée was lit up in the most gorgeous manner, and several rows of Chinese lanterns hung in brilliant array in front of the Union Square Hotel. Blue-lights, Roman candles, and other favorite pieces of pyrotechny were constantly going off, and the effect produced on the surrounding objects was picturesque in the extreme. The Church of the Puritans was surrounded with a cloud of light and glory, and the old trees of the Square changed colors as often as the famed chameleon, while the waters of the fountain sparkled and glittered with unwonted brilliancy.

The fireworks consisted of four large pieces, arranged on frames down the centre of Fourteenth street, facing the Maison Dorée. The first piece was constructed so as to represent a bier, with an urn emitting incense, on which were the names of Sedgwick and Wadsworth, in letters of light.

The second piece contained the names of Meade, Hancock, Burnside, Warren and Wright.

The third and principal piece was of a more elaborate character, representing a mammoth shield, with the Stars and Stripes strewn on either side, and the figure of the American eagle crowning the whole. Between the eagle and the shield were the following words:

A NATION'S GRATITUDE TO GRANT.

Below the shield appeared the following:

VICTORY, FREEDOM AND UNION.

The fourth piece simply contained the names of Sherman, Thomas, Hooker and McPherson.

It was about half-past nine o'clock when all the preparations for the commencement of the display were completed, when a gun was fired, and in an instant the first piece was in a blaze.

Scarcely had the light of the first piece died away, when the three remaining ones were ignited simultaneously. The spectacle thus produced, was magnificent.

The vast crowd then dispersed with nine ringing cheers for GRANT and VICTORY.

SPEECH OF JUDGE DALY.

Judge DALY then presented himself, and was received with hearty cheers. He said:—

Rise, fellow citizens, to offer, as explanatory of the object of this meeting, a series of resolutions, and which, if approved by you, will be taken as expressive of the sense of it. It has been stated in some of the public journals that this meeting was prematurely called, and that it would be time enough for the people to come together when they had a victory to rejoice over. In my judgment it is more noble and more useful to assemble and encourage our brave brothers in the field now when they are about to engage in a contest that may settle the fate of this Union, than it will be to come together hereafter to rejoice when the work may be done. We propose by these resolutions to show our appreciation of what has been already accomplished, and to express our confidence in the fixed determination and ability of our army, officers and men, no matter what length of time it may take to carry the old flag to the very centre of Richmond and plant it in the public square of that city, beneath the statue of Washington. (Applause.) We occasionally meet men in our city who tell us complacently, as they told us in respect to Vicksburg, the attempt will fail. The issue of battles is in the dispensation of Providence, and all that it is becoming for us to say is, that if these persons should turn out prophets, it will not be for the want of resolution, courage and determination on the part of the noble Army of the Potomac and of its far seeing and resolute commander. (Applause.) By a series of strategic movements, despite every attempt to prevent them on the part of the most capable General of the rebels, General Grant has placed his army in front of Richmond, resting upon a base at White House, which puts him within twenty-four hours' communication with Washington, while having in his onward march destroyed everything in the way of communication in his rear, he has placed it beyond the power of General Lee to change the theatre of war by suddenly advancing upon Washington or by making a raid upon the Northern States. (Applause.) This is a condition of things which has not existed in any previous campaign in Virginia, and holds out the reasonable anticipation that Richmond will be taken by the deprivation of those means of subsisting an army within it or in its vicinity, which must ultimately result in its capture. (Applause.) I do not wish to speak in a boastful spirit; I simply mean to say that, judging from the situation, and having confidence in the ability of a general who has never yet failed in anything that he has deliberately undertaken, I believe that that long looked for event will soon be realized. (Continued applause.) "Three cheers for Little Mac." The cheers called for were heartily given.)

Judge DALY—Fellow citizens, as there appears a disposition to give three cheers for a soldier of the republic. I will unite and propose three cheers for General McClellan. (The cheers for Little Mac were repeated, followed by three more with a will, for General Grant.)

If Richmond is taken, and the army which has now been collected for its defence is broken and dispersed, the "military" power of the rebels will be at an end, or survive only in detached and spasmodic efforts. But the destruction of the military power of the revolting States will not alone restore the country. There will be a necessity for the wisest statesmanship. It is easier to conquer a reluctant people than to govern them, and to introduce the European system of retaining them as con-

quered provinces is, under our form of government, an absurdity. What will be most required of our people will be moderation, and the sooner we bring ourselves to that tone and temper, the sooner will we be fitted to discharge the heavy responsibilities that await us in the future. (Cheers.) It is about time to give up the silly habit of calling every man a copperhead who differs as to the policy to be pursued. (Cries of "That's good.") Intolerance is one of the worst things that can exist in a republic, and the right of giving free utterance to our convictions, whatever they may be, is one of those inalienable privileges which republican government is supposed to secure. We have the fact before us of an enormous debt, and of a currency depreciating steadily day by day, as against gold and silver, the universal currency of the world. With peace will come a reaction such as perhaps no country has ever undergone, and it is the part of wisdom to prepare for it as an event which is inevitable. While engaged in a war that has shaken the republic to its very centre, we are indulging in the most ridiculous extravagance, surpassing, especially in this city, in extravagance of dress and in costly entertainment, anything previously known in the history of the country or of any country in time of war. Why is it that in Europe, with the simple exception of Russia and of Prussia, the preponderance of public sentiment is in favor of the South and against the North? You cannot open a foreign journal or converse with one that has travelled abroad without receiving the most conclusive evidence of this. It is that sympathy always inclines to the weaker side when it exhibits, as the South has exhibited, courage, constancy, and a spirit of self-sacrifice, no matter what may be the merits of the quarrel, while on our part we indulge in an extravagance so ridiculous that they have no faith in us. I do not mean to say that we are to resolve not to buy any foreign goods and to purchase only those of American manufacture, for the national laws of trade will assert their supremacy against all the resolves that can be made; and what is the best and cheapest will always command the market. But we can, if we like, be economical, retrench all unnecessary expenditures and dispense with luxuries which are unseemly on the part of a people involved in a heavy war. It shows heartlessness to be indulging in such extravagances when the noble martyrs of this war are stretching their bodies upon bloody battlefields for the preservation of the country and of its institutions while we indulge in such ridicule.



